

# House File 2277 - Reprinted

HOUSE FILE 2277  
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE  
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 550)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 6, 2018)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the inspection and examination of certain  
2 public records under the custody of the state archivist or a  
3 county registrar.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **22.16 Inspection of records —**  
2 **state archives.**

3     1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,  
4 a public record that is an archive, as defined in section  
5 305.2, shall be available for public examination and copying  
6 under this chapter if the public record was created at least  
7 one hundred years prior to a request for access to the record,  
8 subject to the requirements of this section.

9     2. A public record as described in this section shall not  
10 be available for examination and copying under any of the  
11 following circumstances:

12     a. The public record is ordered to be sealed and is not  
13 subject to inspection by any federal or state court.

14     b. The public record is prohibited from being disclosed  
15 under any federal law, rule, or regulation.

16     Sec. 2. Section 144.43, subsection 3, Code 2018, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18     3. However, the following vital statistics records may be  
19 inspected and copied as of right under **chapter 22** when they are  
20 in the custody of a county registrar or when they are in the  
21 custody of the state archivist ~~and are at least seventy-five~~  
22 ~~years old:~~

23     a. A record of birth that is at least seventy-five years  
24 old.

25     b. A record of marriage that is at least seventy-five years  
26 old.

27     c. A record of divorce, dissolution of marriage, or  
28 annulment of marriage that is at least seventy-five years old.

29     d. A record of death if that death was not a fetal death  
30 that is at least fifty years old.

31     e. A record of death that was a fetal death in the custody  
32 of the state archivist that is at least fifty years old.